

**To:** McCabe, Catherine[McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov]; Enck, Judith[Enck.Judith@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Mugdan, Walter[Mugdan.Walter@epa.gov]; Font, Jose[Font.Jose@epa.gov]; Garrison, Geoffrey[Garrison.Geoffrey@epa.gov]  
**From:** Schaaf, Eric  
**Sent:** Mon 3/23/2015 12:50:10 PM  
**Subject:** RE: St. John, USVI Methyl Bromide Response

**Ex. 5 - Attorney Client**

**From:** McCabe, Catherine  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 22, 2015 7:24 PM  
**To:** Schaaf, Eric; Enck, Judith  
**Cc:** Mugdan, Walter; Font, Jose; Garrison, Geoffrey  
**Subject:** RE: St. John, USVI Methyl Bromide Response

**Ex. 5 - Attorney Client**

**From:** Schaaf, Eric  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 22, 2015 7:23 PM  
**To:** Enck, Judith  
**Cc:** McCabe, Catherine; Mugdan, Walter; Font, Jose; Garrison, Geoffrey  
**Subject:** Re: St. John, USVI Methyl Bromide Response

**Ex. 5 - Attorney Client**

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 22, 2015, at 7:10 PM, Schaaf, Eric <[Schaaf.Eric@epa.gov](mailto:Schaaf.Eric@epa.gov)> wrote:

**Ex. 5 - Attorney Work Product**

## Ex. 5 - Attorney Work Product

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 21, 2015, at 8:28 PM, "Enck, Judith" <[Enck.Judith@epa.gov](mailto:Enck.Judith@epa.gov)> wrote:

## Ex. 5 - Deliberative

meeting with the dpnr commissioner on Tuesday but we need to actively work this before then Figure out how to coordinate with dpnr and cid. Dpnr did not know about this until Geoff garrison told them. They're initial response was very weak

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "DOnofrio, Cris" <[DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov](mailto:DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** March 21, 2015 at 7:11:26 PM EDT  
**To:** "Enck, Judith" <[Enck.Judith@epa.gov](mailto:Enck.Judith@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: St. John, USVI Methyl Bromide Response

Yes, I'd like to know how much he has and where he's been using it, too.  
And I'd love to see it taken off the street.....

**From:** Enck, Judith  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 21, 2015 7:09 PM  
**To:** DOnofrio, Cris  
**Subject:** Re: St. John, USVI Methyl Bromide Response

Thank you for your hard work on this. I want to find out where else this applicator applied his stockpiled supply.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 21, 2015, at 7:06 PM, DOnofrio, Cris <[DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov](mailto:DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov)> wrote:

Yes...this is a sad story for them.....and I've been doing the technical research to substantiate our own level of respiratory protection....this is some really nasty, dangerous stuff. Geoff needs to find out how much was applied and how it was used .....I hope he can get reliable information from the exterminator.....and you're right, we need to know what this family experienced and how they spent their time in the condo.....

I'll say my prayers for this family....I hope they can recover fully from this....

**From:** Enck, Judith  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 21, 2015 7:00 PM  
**To:** DOnofrio, Cris  
**Subject:** Re: St. John, USVI Methyl Bromide Response

Tx. I am scheduled for three full days in usvi but can make time if there is anything I can do to assist. I am meeting with the new governor and the new dpnr commissioner for the first time. I hope this incident will convince them of the need for a strong regulatory presence by usvi agencies. I am extremely worried about this family. They go to beautiful St. John for a family vacation and now they are all in the hospital. The condition of one of the boys is quite serious. Geoff is going to need to interview them when they are ready.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 21, 2015, at 5:51 PM, DOnofrio, Cris <[DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov](mailto:DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov)> wrote:

Good luck down there and enjoy the trip if you can.....I'll continue to send updates as new information becomes available....

**From:** Enck, Judith  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 21, 2015 5:37 PM

**To:** DOnofrio, Cris

**Subject:** Re: St. John, USVI Methyl Bromide Response

Thank you cris. I had planned to be in St. John on monday and may visit the site. I will coordinate with Geoff garrison

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 21, 2015, at 4:38 PM, DOnofrio, Cris

<[DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov](mailto:DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov)> wrote:

All:

Yesterday at approximately 1640 hours, Geoff Garrison was notified of a potential chemical substance exposure that occurred in St. John, USVI. At that time, Geoff initiated contact with Regional EPA management, Virgin Island Government officials, ATSDR and the local hospital to obtain additional information and prepare for a response. Geoff contacted me at 07:30 hours today and we have been coordinating our efforts to obtain additional technical and situational information in order determine the need for and scope of a response. Geoff has been in contact with the VI DPNR Commissioner and is on his way to St. John to assist DPNR in the investigation of this incident. The RST contractor is not being mobilized at this time. The following is a summary of what is currently known and the proposed actions:

A family of four was staying at La Sirena Villa, a relatively new condominium in Coral Bay, St. John. They began their stay approximately 5 days ago and slowly started showing neurological symptoms of chemical exposure. Last night their symptoms worsened to the point they required medical care. They are currently in the St. Thomas Hospital where at least two members of the family have been hospitalized; the details of their current condition are not known at this time. The suspected chemical is methyl bromide.

DPNR has informed Geoff Garrison that DPNR has been in contact with the exterminator for the condominium. The exterminator has confirmed that methyl bromide has been applied to the condominium unit in question. The amount used, method of application, and the timing of the application have not yet been confirmed. It is also not known whether other condominium units have been similarly treated. Geoff is on his way to St. Thomas/St. John to assist DPNR in the investigation and potential sampling of the condominium unit(s). He is expected to arrive on St. Thomas at 16:00 hours today.

I have been coordinating with ERT, RST and Mike Matarazzo on technical and health and safety issues. With the latest information, we have identified sampling equipment and methodologies to be used if needed. ERT has shipped SUMMA canisters, sampling pumps and associated sampling media to St. Thomas. The equipment is expected to arrive on St. Thomas on Monday morning and will be available in the event sampling is required. Once Geoff arrives on St. John and can obtain additional details, we will evaluate the need for additional EPA/ERT/SERAS/RST personnel.